APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 227 asked by Sri P. G. Manickam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 28th April 1959, page 529 supra.]

(a) Subjects discussed at the meeting.	*(b) Resolutions of the Board and action taken.*
1 According approval to the State's Second Five-Year Plan for State and District Board roads.	The Board approved the State's Second Five-Year Plan, and the resolutions of the Board which is only a recommendation is under consideration of the Government. Pending approval to the Plan, works are selected every year in connection with the budget.
2 Fixing the minimum allotment for maintenance of roads.	A minimum allotment of Rs. 242·90 lakhs for Government roads and Rs. 130·31 lakhs for District Board Roads per annum recommended by the Chief Engineer (Highways) for the maintenance of the roads was approved by the Board
3 Widening the narrow railway level-crosing gates and straightening of bends near them.	It was explained by the member representing Railways that the Railway authorities were already taking necessary action in this regard on important level-crossings and the matter was not pressed further.
4 Minimising the time of closure of level-crossing gates.	The Secretary of the Board was authorised to take up the matter with the Railway authorities and the matter is under correspondence between them.

5	Permission for the use of truck trailer combination.	Sri T. S. Krishna who raised this point pleaded difficulty in adhering to the standards prescribed by the Department. He was requested to furnish designs of vehicles proposed for manufacture for examination by the Chief Engineer (Highways) and these are awaited.
6	Widening of culverts so as to allow broadbodied transport vehicles.	The Chief Engineer (Highways) explained to the Board that the Government were already attending to this consistent with the funds available and the matter was not pressed further.
7	Permission to increase laden weight of vehicles up to 12 tons at least on National Highways.	The Board desired the Chief Engineer (Highways) to find out the feasibility of the proposal taking into account the load-carrying capacity of weak culverts. This is being examined by the Chief Engineer (Highways).
8	Constitution of non-lapsable road fund for financing the road projects.	The Secretary, Public Works Department, explained that the amount spent on roads was more than what was received as revenue from motor vehicles and as such the proposed non-lapsable road fund would not serve the purpose. The matter was dropped.
9	Vesting the Collectors with powers to appoint special staff for land acquisition and also to issue Gazette notification.	The Board of Revenue has been empowered within certain limits to permit Collectors to appoint special staff for land acquisition in anticipation of sanction of Government. As regards publication of land acquisition notification there is no appreciable delay on the part of Government after their receipt from Collectors. The position was explained to the Board and the matter was dropped.

(a) *Subjects discussed at the meeting.*	(b) *Resolutions of the Board and action taken.*
10 Bifurcating the heavy districts and increasing the pay scales of Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers for ensuring effective supervision of road projects.	The Secretary, Public Works Department, explained that no increase in the strength of staff was possible at this stage and that the question of revising the pay scales of engineering staff was under the consideration of the Government. But after such consideration the question of revising of pay scales of Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers has been deferred. The question of bifurcating some of the heavy districts is again being considered.
11 Early issue of road-worthiness certificate for transport vehicles to ply in new routes.	The proposal was accepted by the Board and a circular has been issued by the Chief Engineer (Highways) to all Divisional Engineers (Highways) to furnish the certificate within a month from the date of receipt of requisition.

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